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LBJ Urges School Officials To Put Aid System to Work

By HARLEY PERSHING
Star-Telegram Austin Bureau

LBJ RANCH — School officials across the land were alerted today to waste no time in putting to work the newly enacted federal aid to education program.

This mandate came from President Johnson who returned to Washington this morning after a busy weekend at his Texas ranch, in which he:

1. Signed into law the \$1.3 billion education bill, calling it a milestone in the nation's history.
2. Appointed William F. Raborn Jr., a native of Decatur,

as the new director of the Central Intelligence Agency, succeeding John A. McCone.

3. Elevated Richard G. Helms from a post as CIA planning chief to be Raborn's chief deputy.

The bill-signing ceremony, witnessed by more than 1,000 guests, was staged on the lawn of the one-room school house near the LBJ ranch where the President, as a boy, learned his ABC's.

On hand for the historic program was Mrs. Chester Loney of Rough and Ready, Calif., his first teacher.

The President also had as his guests some of his fellow students in the tiny, rural school and some of the pupils he taught while a teacher in Cotulla, Houston and San Marcos in later years.

Present too, were U. S. Sen. Eugene McCarthy of Minnesota and U. S. Rep. Carl Albert of McAlester, Okla., Democratic majority leader in the House.

Johnson labeled the new law a bridge closing the gap "between helplessness and hope" for more than 5 million educationally "deprived children."

He predicted that congressional leaders who pushed the bill to law "will be remembered in history as men and women who begin a new day of greatness in American society."

President Johnson said he chose his first school as the site for the bill signing ceremony because it was there that he earned the "magic" of learning.

The President said he was hopeful the bill would rekindle the revolution of "the spirit against the tyranny of ignorance."

He said, too, he wanted no delay in the start of the measure, calling on Anthony Celebreze, secretary of health, education and welfare, and U. S. Commissioner of Education Francis Kappel to share his sense of urgency.

Central Texas Town

Several hours before the later afternoon ceremony, President Johnson gave Mrs. Loney and her husband the grand tour of the Central Texas Hill Country which she had not seen since 1913 when she left the state.

"I am just trying to remember a few places and recognize a few homes," she told newsmen.

The first stop on the tour was at the First Methodist Church in Johnson City where the President, his wife, Lady Bird, and the Loneys attended Palm Sunday services.

With Johnson at the wheel of his white Lincoln Continental, the party began a two-hour drive around Johnson City and the nearby ranch country which the President calls his beloved land.

Their first stop was at the home of an old friend, Albert Kroll, where the President and his party popped in unannounced for a short chat.

Next they drove to the headquarters building of the Pedernales Electric Co-Operative to inspect an addition and to admire a new cornerstone.

It was dedicated to Johnson for his "faith, ability and foresight" in the REA program, while serving as a congressman from this 10th District in 1933.

One of the highlights of the trip was a visit to Johnson's birthplace, a small place now being restored as a show place and civic center. It will

be open to the public in a few weeks.

Johnson gave Raborn, a retired rear admiral, a tour of the grounds and a feel of the front porch swing where the President used to sit as a young man.

The party then headed for the Hill Country with 35 cars of newsmen and some tourists joining the cavalcade.

Johnson swung off the highway for a trip to his recently acquired Lewis ranch. The caravan of autos was permitted to follow and the dusty, caliche road resembled an armored column on maneuvers. Many cars had to drive with their lights on because of the dust.

The President stopped at the rustic ranch house and gave the Loneys and Raborn a personal inspection of the interior, now modernized.

With the entourage in tow, the President next headed for his ranch house but stopped en route to drive through a pasture for a close inspection of his prize-winning Hereford cattle.

Tourists and newsmen were turned aside when the President and his party entered the LBJ Ranch for lunch and a few minutes of rest.

Raborn, vice president of Aerojet General Corp. in Pasadena, Cal., retired from the Navy 18 months ago. He was in charge of the Polaris submarine missile systems when on active duty.

The one-time resident of Wise County, Senator McCarthy and Representative Albert returned to Washington this morning with the President.

Mrs. Johnson and their eldest daughter, Lynda, remained at the ranch. President is expected to join them this weekend for the Easter holidays.